

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 2-12, 17-21, and 28-34 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 13 have been cancelled. Claims 2-6, 10, 12, 17, 19, and 28 have been amended and claims 29-34 have been newly added. No new matter has been added.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6-11 and 13. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have rewritten claim 6 and claim 13 (now claim 29) in independent form to place those claims in condition for allowance. In addition, Applicants have amended claims 2-5, 10, 12, 17, 19, and 28 to have those claims depend from allowable claim 6. Thus, dependent claims 2-5, 7-12, 17-21, and 28 depending from allowable claim 6 are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on allowable claim 6. Timely allowance of claims 2-12, 17-21, and 28-29 are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,633,678) in view of Oikawa (U.S. Patent No. 5,666,578). In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 4, 5, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski et al. in view of Oikawa, and further in view of Saegusa (U.S. Patent No. 5,799,217); rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski et al. in view of Oikawa, and further in view of Moghadam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,917,542); rejected claims 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski et al. in view of Oikawa, and further in view of Friend et al. (Understanding Data Communications); and rejected claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski et al. in view of Oikawa, and further in view of Kaihatsu (U.S. Patent No.

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5,898,386). Applicants believe that these rejections are rendered moot by canceling claims 1 and 13 and placing claims 2-12, 17-21, and 28-29 in condition for allowance. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Only remaining claims at issue in this application are new claims 30-34. In view of the following reasons, Applicants believes that claims 30-34 define novel and non-obvious subject matter over the cited references and are also allowable.

New independent claim 30 recites a combination of structural elements that is patentable over the cited references. In particular, claim 30 recites a camera comprising, among other things, "an image-pickup device ... for producing image information of the image by the electric signals," "a display to indicate the image on a screen," "a print information producing device for producing print information for the image information for the image indicated on the screen," and "a transmitting device for transmitting the image information of the image together with the print information produced for the image to an external apparatus."

In rejecting previously submitted claims 1-3 and 28, the Examiner admitted that Parulski et al. lacks disclosure for recording the number of prints print designation information. The Examiner, however, asserted that Oikawa teaches recording "the number of prints for each frame as part of the photo/frame information in response to a selection input by an operator," and that "[i]t would have been obvious ... to utilize the features as taught by Oikawa for the purpose of eliminating the need for an index print."

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's reasoning. While the Examiner cited Oikawa for its alleged teaching of recording the number of prints for each frame, the camera of Oikawa is a conventional film camera and, therefore, the

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recording (and transmitting) of the print information on a conventional film cannot be incorporated into the camera of Parulski et al. because the method of producing and transmitting the print information in the camera of Oikawa is materially different from those of Parulski et al. For example, the camera of Oikawa does not include "an image-pickup device for converting the light into electric signals representing the image, and for producing image information of the image by the electric signals," and "a print information producing device for producing print information." Instead, Oikawa includes an external print information control apparatus C, shown in Figs. 17A and 17B of Oikawa, for reading and writing information in the film strip.

In addition, claim 30 recites "a display to indicate the image on a screen," and "a transmitting device for transmitting the image information of the image together with the print information produced for the image to an external apparatus." That is, a display in a camera of the present invention enables an operator to observe the image photographed by the image-pickup device and to produce print information by the print information producing device for the image displayed on the screen. Thereby, the operator can produce the print information while observing the image on the screen of the display. The transmitting device then can transmit the image information of the image together with the print information.

Parulski et al., however, discloses nothing about a display to indicate the image on a screen. Instead, Parulski et al. merely discloses a status display 30, shown in Fig. 3, for displaying information useful in operation of the camera. As becomes apparent, a liquid crystal display (LCD) panel of the status display 30 cannot indicate the image on the panel. Moreover, while Parulski et al. appears to disclose a categorization feature

that enables a user to establish an appropriate category of the images by subject (see col. 4, lines 56-59, of Parulski et al.), Parulski et al. discloses nothing about producing print information. Therefore, Parulski et al. fails to disclose a camera structure for producing print information for an image by a print information producing device while observing the image on a display. None of the other cited references does not disclose the deficiencies of Parulski et al. discussed above.

At least for the reasons set forth above, none of the cited references teaches or suggests the claimed invention. Thus, timely allowance of claims 30-34 is respectfully requested.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 27, 2003

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